

Ann Dvorak Had Variety of Roles, Disliked Many

Ann Dvorak, who played roles ranging from Al Capone's sister to Randolph Scott's sweetheart in a series of films during the 1930s and 40s, has died in Honolulu at age 67, it was learned last week.

Miss Dvorak had lived in the islands for the past 20 years and her death Dec. 10 went unnoticed until a brief mention appeared in *Variety* last Tuesday. She left no known survivors.

A spokesman at Straub Hospital in Honolulu where she died said her death was not reported because she was listed as Ann Wade. In Honolulu she also was known as Ann McKim.

Television producer Nicholas H. Wade was one of her four husbands. She was born Ann McKim.

First cast as Cesca Capone, Al's sister, in the 1932 production of "Scarface" starring Paul Muni, Miss Dvorak next was signed by Howard Hughes for his "Sky Epic."

Throughout the 1930s she appeared in such Warner Bros. pictures as "Three on a Match," "G-Man," "We Who Are About to Die" and "Dr. Socrates."

But she generated more publicity over a 1935-36 legal tiff with the brothers Warner than she did in most of her screen appearances.

In an era when studios dictated not only salaries but the number of films each of their contract players would make a year, Miss Dvorak's was one of the few voices raised over the quality of her screen parts.

She sued Warners for canceling her contract after she allegedly had been ill with the flu but her friends said at



Ann Dvorak in 1947

the time her real intent was to publicize the fact that she had no freedom in selecting roles.

And although she lost her legal battle to be reinstated, she was awarded \$7,000 in back pay, one of the few adverse decisions for the studios in those days.

After the war she appeared in "Flame of the Barbary Coast," "Bel Ami" and "I Was an American Spy" before appearing in her final film, "The Secret of Convict Lake" in 1951.

—BURT A. FOLKART